

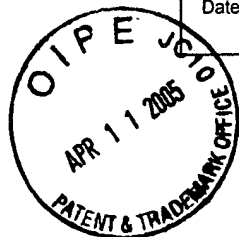
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 615196044 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: April 11, 2005

Signature:

*Judy Bridgewater*  
(Judy Bridgewater)

No.: 564462006600  
Client No.: D1440-2US  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Mark MADDEN et al.

Application No.: 09/751,299

Filed: December 28, 2000

For: METHODS FOR PRODUCING ALPHA-SUBSTITUTED CARBOXYLIC ACIDS USING NITRILASES AND STRECKER REAGENTS (AMENDED)

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Kathleen M. Kerr

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein, mailed November 26, 2004, the time for response to which was set to expire February 26, 2005. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a two month extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response to April 26, 2005. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Also included herewith is the following Exhibit:

Exhibit A: Declaration of Grace DeSantis, Ph.D. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.132.

sd-234736

04/13/2005 WABDELRI 00000075 031952 09751299  
02 FC:2202 250.00 DA